

LAFAYETTE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT (NPS)

Bounded by H Street, Jackson Place, Madison Place, and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Designated as a portion of the President's Park when Washington became the U.S. capital in 1791, this greensward fronting the White House has also been called the nation's front yard. It was renamed in 1824 to honor the Marquis de Lafayette's visit. Houses fronting the park, which continues as a traditional site of national demonstrations were among Washington's choice addresses throughout the 19th century. Beginning in President John F. Kennedy's administration, most of the remaining houses were restored and rehabilitated as governmental offices.